



Flathead National Forest

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Media Release

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Contact: Wade Muehlhof
(406) 758-5252

Most Flathead National Forest Campgrounds Open

Food Storage Order Active on Entire Forest

KALISPELL, MT. – Flathead National Forest (FNF) campgrounds started opening in mid-May and most are open for your enjoyment this Memorial Day Holiday Weekend. Many of these campgrounds and recreation areas are operated by new forest concessionaire, Flathead Valley Campgrounds (Barta Enterprises, Inc.).

On the Spotted Bear Ranger District all campgrounds and sites are open to the public; however, there will be no water available at the Spotted Bear Campground until later in June.

In addition to campgrounds, boat launches and day-use areas, the forest also has 14 rental cabins. To rent a cabin or to reserve select campground sites please go to <http://www.recreation.gov>.

Forest campers and visitors are reminded that by law all food and food-related items must be stored in a bear-resistant manner. This is to keep both you and the bears safe. The Flathead National Forest is home to grizzly and black bears, and responsible human actions will help with unwanted bear encounters.

If you plan to hike, be aware that conditions may be different than usual for this time of year on wilderness and upper-elevation trails. A combination of recent upper-elevation snow and recent heavy runoff is blocking traditional routes that hikers often use this time of year. Some water-crossings may be unsafe to cross on foot or with stock.

Campers are also reminded to be careful with fire. Never leave a fire unattended and be sure the fire is “dead out” before leaving.

For more information about campgrounds and food storage regulations on the Flathead National Forest, visit <http://www.fs.usda.gov/flathead/>. For the latest information on conditions and openings contact your local forest service office:

Glacier View/Hungry Horse Ranger District - (406) 387-3800

Spotted Bear Ranger District - (406) 758-5376

Swan Lake Ranger District - (406) 837-7500

Tally Lake Ranger District – (406) 758-5208

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Attachment: 2013 Flathead National Forest Campground Map and Information